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Déposant

COMMISSARIAT A L'ENERGIE ATOMIQUE etc

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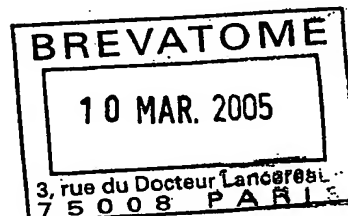
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/FR2003/001858



Translation

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference B 13989.3 PR	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/FR2003/001858	International filing date (day/month/year) 18 juin 2003 (18.06.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 19 juin 2002 (19.06.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H03L 7/081		
Applicant COMMISSARIAT A L'ENERGIE ATOMIQUE		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 10 janvier 2004 (10.01.2004)	Date of completion of this report 05 November 2004 (05.11.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/FR2003/001858

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☒ the international application as originally filed
- ☒ the description:
 pages _____ 1-16 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☒ the claims:
 pages _____ 1-12 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☒ the drawings:
 pages _____ 1/6-6/6 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item. These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/FR 03/01858

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-12	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	4-6, 10-12	YES
	Claims	1-3, 7-9	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-12	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: US-A-6 147 525 (KITAGAWA NOBUTAKA ET AL) 14 November 2000 (2000-11-14)

D2: WO 01/45263 A (BROADCOM CORP; FALLAHI SIAVASH (US); WAKAYAMA MYLES (US); VORENKAMP) 21 June 2001 (2001-06-21)

1. The present application fails to meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(1), since the subject matter of claims 1 to 3 and 7 to 9 does not involve an inventive step as defined by PCT Article 33(3).

1.1 D1, which is considered to be the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1, describes (column 8, lines 16 to 65; figure 1) a delay-locked loop including a line of delay cells (1) connected in series, wherein a delay signal generated by the loop is sampled on the output of one of the delay cells, the input of the delay cell line (1) is connected to a first input of a phase/frequency detector (3), a second input of which is connected to a delay cell output (output of (2)); which delay-locked loop includes command means (2) capable of modifying, by means of a command signal (FREQUENCY MULTIPLICATION FACTOR SETTING SIGNAL, INPUT FREQUENCY RANGE SETTING

SIGNAL), the output of the delay cell that is connected to the second input of the phase/frequency detector (3).

The subject matter of claim 1 differs from D1 in that said command means (2) are capable of modifying the abovementioned output at the rhythm of a clock signal (H).

The problem that the present invention is intended to solve can therefore be considered to be that of reducing phase jitter by applying the noise-shaping method.

However, this feature has already been used for the same purpose in an equivalent delay-locked loop (see D2, page 4, line 16 to page 6, line 21; figures 4, 5, 7c, 8c). It is obvious for a person skilled in the art to apply this feature, with a corresponding effect, in a delay-locked loop according to D1 and thereby obtain a delay-locked loop according to claim 1.

The solution proposed in claim 1 of the present application is therefore not considered inventive (PCT Article 33(3)).

- 1.2 The additional features of claims 2, 3 and 7 to 9 are merely several obvious options that a person skilled in the art seeking to solve the stated problem might select, depending on each particular case, and without an inventive step being involved.
2. The combination of features of claims 4 to 6 and 10 to 12 is not found in the prior art and, apparently, cannot be derived in an obvious manner therefrom.